Protection of Majuli Island, Assam

1809. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Brahmaputra Board prepared a Special Report for the protection of Majuli Island, Assam during 1997;

(b) if so, the long and short-term measures suggested for protection of the Island;

(c) the steps initiated by Government to implement the recommendations; and

(d) the number of projects already sanctioned for Majuli Island and amount allocated so far against such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Brahmaputra Board in their report has recommended taking up anti erosion schemes; repair & strengthening of dykes and roads; construction of spurs and other permeable structures under short term measures. Under long term measures catchment area treatment; construction of revetments and implementation of storages on Subansiri & Dihang rivers were suggested.

(c) and (d) The Union Government has approved three schemes, prepared by the Government of Assam, for flood moderation in the Majuli area and one drainage scheme prepared by the Brahmaputra Board has also been cleared techno-economically. These schemes are to be implemented by the Government of Assam from the funds allocated under State Flood control sector by the Planning Commission.

Construction of dams on Subangiri and Siang Rivers

1810. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of harnessing Brahmaputra by constructing three dams on the Subangiri river and three dams on Siang (Dihang) river;

(b) whether the pre-feasibility of these dams has been established by an inspection team comprising officers of Central Water Commission, Geological Survey of India, Brahmaputra Board and Government of Arunachal Pradesh jointly during December, 1995 and February, 1996;

(c) whether the investigation and preparation of DPRs are scheduled to be completed during Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) what is the progress uptil now and whether it will be completed in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The investigation at alternative sites for construction of three moderately high dams each on Subansiri and Siang river has been taken up by the Brahmaputra Board.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The investigation as well as the preparation of the Detailed Project Reports for 3 dams each on the rivers Subansiri & Siang have been taken up and are scheduled to be completed during IX and X Plan respectively.

World bank aided irrigation projects

1811. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the present status of on going World Bank aided irrigation projects in the country;

(b) whether there has been inordinate dely in execution of these projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The present status of on going World Bank aided irrigation projects is an under:—

(Amount in Million US$)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount of Assistance Present value	Date of signing/ closing	Disbursement upto April 1998.
1.	Punjab Irrigation & Drainage Project	161.679	09.02.1990 31.07.1998	139.509
2.	Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	262.148	06.04.1994 31.12.2000	91.567
3.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	252.303	29.04.1995 31.03.2002	16.586
4.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	270.578	05.01.1996 30.09.2002	74.993
5.	Andhra Pradesh III Irrigation Project	325.00	03.06.1997 31.01.2003	58.831

(b) and (c) There is no inordinate delay in implementation of the above projects, however, the credit closing date for "Punjab Irrigation and Drainage Project" has been extended for four months beyond March, 1998 *i.e.* 31.07.98.

Irrigation Projects pending with Government

1812. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Irrigation projects pending with Government for approval including their estimated projected cost and benefits likely to be accrued therefrom; State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) since when these projects are pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some of the State Governments have requested Government for the early approval of these projects;

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) A statement giving Statewise details of Major & Medium Irrigation projects pending clearance at the Centre alongwith their estimated cost & benefits likely to be accrued alongwith their present status of clearance is enclosed in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 56]

(c) to (e) The Clearance of irrigation projects is linked with compliance of observations made by the various Central appraising agencies by the State Governments.

Work on SYL Canal

1813. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal has resumed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the loss in terms of time and money caused by the delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.